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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: March 26, 2004

Applicant(s): K. SHIMIZU

Serial No. : Not yet assigned

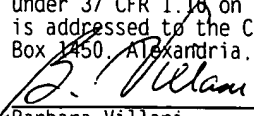
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Art Unit :

Examiner :

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Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450,
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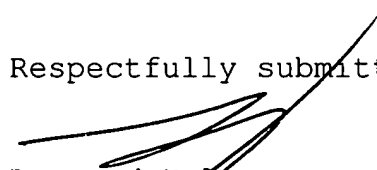
S I R :

It is respectfully requested that the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A be considered and made of record. Copies of the Japanese documents are submitted herewith.

The two Japanese documents are identified on page 2 of the present specification.

The U.S. Patent Document identified on said form PTO/SB/08A is not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications for U.S. Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003. (See 1276 OG 55 (05 August 2003)).

Respectfully submitted,


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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number		
				Filing Date		Herewith
				First Named Inventor		SHIMIZU
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		04200/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
		5,061,049		HORNBECK	10-29-1991	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	7-134250	A		05-23-1995		
		JP	2000-502472	A		02-29-2000		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

² Unique citation designation number. ³ See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **March 26, 2004**